THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) No. Sir.

(b) All the fire victims who applied for alternative shops and fulfilled the conditions for allotment of shops in the Municipal Market have been allotted shops in the Port Blair Municipal Market. The number of such fire victims is sixty.

(c) Does not arise.

Contribution for Financing the Activities of SAARC

*417. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the countries which have contributed to the fund for financing the activities of the SAARC and the amounts contributed by each country;

(b) what steps are being taken to persuade the member countries of the SAARC to make adequate contributions to finance its activities; and

(c) what are the main activities of the SAARC which will be financed out of this fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) While there is no fund as such for financing SAARC activities, the latest position regarding the pledges of contributions for SAARC programme activities is as follows:

Bangladesh (1987-88)	Bangaledesh Takas 7.5 million	(=Indian Rs. 3.36 million approx.)
Bhutan (1987-88)	Bhutanese NU 2 million	(=Indian Rs. 2 million)
India (1987-88)	Indian Rs.	15 million
Maldives (1987)	Maldivian Rufiyas 252,000	(=Indian Rs. 420,000 approx.)
Nepal (1987-88)	Nepalese Rs. 7 million	(=Indian Rs. 4.12 million approx.)
Pakistan (1987-88)	Pakistani Rs. 12.5 million+Rs. 500,000 for scholarships	(=Indian Rs. 9.33 million+Indian Rs. 373,000 approx.)
Sri Lanka (1987)	Sri Lanka Rs. 5 million	(=Indian Rs. 2.22 million approx.)

(b) The contributions presently made by member States are adequate, for the time being, to finance SAARC activities.

(c) The contributions by member countries are used for financing programmes included in the SAARC Calendar of Activities and for other programmes agreed to by the member countries to expand and strengthen regional cooperation.